Name:

Mineral Hardness Scale

In 1812, a geologist named Friedrich Mohs developed the hardness scale to be able to compare and reference the various hardness of minerals/rocks. The scale is from 1 to 10 with talc being a 1 and diamond being a 10. Scratching rocks with different materials helps to determine the hardness of a rock.

❶ Should a finger nail be able to scratch the diamond or should the diamond be able to scratch a finger nail? Explain.

❷ Look at the scale and decide what two things would be able to scratch glass. Explain your answer

❸ What should a copper penny be able to scratch? Why do you think so?

❹ Should a finger nail be able to scratch glass? Why or why not?

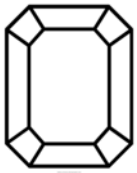
❺ If you were to test a piece of chalk and decide where on the scale it should be, what could you use to do a scratch test on it? *(Chalk used to be made of sedimentary rock—soft limestone).* What number might chalk be? Test it and find out if you are correct.

**Hardness is one of the properties of rocks and minerals.*

10 ← **Diamond**

9

8 ← **Topaz**



7

← **Steel**

6

← **Glass**

5

4

← **Copper**

3

← **Finger nail**

2

1 ← **Talc**